(b) whether any tender system is in vogue for the purchase of such spare parts; and

(c) whether the Accountant-General, Madras, made any remarks for or against the system of purchasing such spare parts from private firms without calling for tenders?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (a) In the case of the vehicles under the control of the Chief Engineer (Highways), the Chief Engineer (Irrigation), the Chief Engineer for Electricity, the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (General and Buildings), the Director of Industries and Commerce and the Inspector-General of Police, spare parts are supplied by private firms in Madras, if the parts required are not available locally.

" (b) The tender system is followed when bulk purchases are made by the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies), the Chief Engineer (Highways), the Director of Public Health and the Director of Industries and Commerce. In other cases, the tender system is not followed.

" (c) In the case of vehicles under the control of the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies), the Accountant-General, Madras, raised some objections; but when the reasons were explained, the objections were not pressed."

Municipal Commissioners.

* 2064 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of first-class municipalities in the State in 1955;

(b) whether any of the first-class municipalities are having second-grade Commissioners and, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any of the second-class municipalities are having first-grade Commissioners and, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (a) Fifteen, Sir.

" (b) & (c) No."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" Is it a fact that two municipalities were declared first-class municipalities in 1955 and the order with regard to declaring one municipality as first grade municipality has been withdrawn and it is still classified as second-class municipality?"

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Yes, Sir."

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Sri V. R. Nagarajan :—" There is a feeling that four grades of Commissioners are not necessary and that they should be made Gazetted officers also. Will the Hon. Minister for Local Administration be pleased to consider that aspect also along with the main question? "

The Hon. Sri S. S. Ramasamy Padayachi :—" Now there are only three grades of Commissioners and not four grades of Commissioners."

Sri A. Govindaswamy Nayagar :—" கடலூர் முனிசிபாலிட்டி முதல் கிரேடாகியிருக்கிறது. அதற்குப் போட்டிருக்கிற கமிஷணர் முதல் கிரேடு கமிஷணரா ? "

The Hon. Sri S. S. Ramasamy Padayachi :—" முதல் கிரேட் கமிஷ்ணரைத்தான் போட்டிருக்கிறது."

Payment of salary to aided elementary school teachers.

* 2065 *Q.*—Sri M. Narayana Kurup : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have recently issued any orders to make payments of salary to aided elementary school teachers in Malabar district by money orders; and

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the orders will be placed on the table of the House?

The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) A copy of the orders [a] is placed on the table of the House."

Sri M. Narayana Kurup :—" There is much delay in the distribution of salaries in certain cases and even in to-day's ' Hindu ' a complaint has appeared that the June salary of some teachers has not been paid even in August. While we appreciate fully the inherent difficulties in this new experiment especially in regard to the magnitude of the work involved, will the Government keep a constant watch in the matter of delays and see that it is avoided as far as possible? "

The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam :—" Certainly we shall keep a watch over this aspect of the matter and it shall be our effort to see that there is least possible delay in the matter."

Sri T. C. Narayanan Nambiar :—" Since last October when the money order system was introduced the Government have ordered that the deduction at source of contribution by the management towards the provident fund of the teachers need not be made. Are the Government aware that consequently the management are taking it as a cover to take some illegal gratification. As a matter of fact, the Teachers' Union has brought it to the notice of the Government. Therefore, will the Government

(*a*) Printed s Appendix IV on pages 931–935 infra.